

Dear Incoming Students and Parents,

Welcome to the Seventh grade! I am beyond excited to be your teacher for the upcoming school year. However, before school begins we have SUMMER! Summer is a time to relax, explore different activities, and spend time with friends and family.

Over the summer I hope that you also take time to read. Research shows that students who read over the summer see significantly less learning loss compared to those who don't read at all. Just a few hours per week spent reading can help prevent the "summer slide" and keep your brain active and engaged.

In my class next year you will be asked to take on the "40 Book Reading Challenge". This is a challenge that I give my students every year. This challenge is a way to encourage students to explore different genres of reading and books! As the beloved children's author Dr. Seuss said, "The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go." Reading opens up new worlds of knowledge and imagination. It allows you to explore different times, cultures, and perspectives beyond your own experiences.

This summer I am asking you to read at least **TWO** books, but encourage you to read more. Each book that you read will count towards your "40 Book Challenge". Take time to explore different books, worlds, time periods, and cultures!

Summer Reading Requirements

For your summer reading, you will need to read **TWO** books:

1. **One book from the attached 7th grade summer reading list**

- a. Choose a book from the list attached. I have included different genres. At the end of each chapter please provide a brief summary. You can use sticky notes or just jot down your summaries on a piece of paper (organized by chapters). We will be using our summaries throughout the first week of school. Please bring summaries on the first day of school along with a physical copy of your book.

2. **BONUS BOOK: One book of your personal choice**

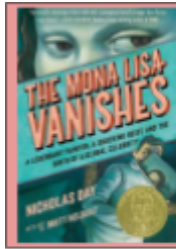
- a. (This book will be counted as double for your reading challenge) - Just provide me with a short summary over what the book is about. Feel free to choose from the list provided or choose a book off your own TBR list. All that is asked is that this be a book you have never read before.

Have a wonderful summer! I look forward to hearing about the books you read when we return in the fall.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Meyers

Seventh Grade Summer Reading List

Non-Fiction



"A narrative nonfiction about how the Mona Lisa was stolen from the Louvre, how the robbery made the portrait the most famous artwork in the world-and how the painting by Leonardo da Vinci should never have existed at all!"



On June 23, 2018, twelve young players of the Wild Boars soccer team and their coach enter a cave in northern Thailand seeking an adventure. But when they turn to leave, rising floodwaters block their path out. The boys are trapped! News of the team spreads, launching a seventeen-day rescue operation involving thousands of rescuers from around the globe. People begin to wonder: how long can a group of ordinary kids survive in complete darkness, with no food or water?

Realistic Fiction



Seventh grade is not going well for Will Levine. Kids at school bully him because of his funny-looking chin. His science teacher finds out about the turtles he spent his summer collecting from the marsh behind school and orders him to release them back into the wild. And for his Bar Mitzvah community service project, he has to go to the hospital to visit R.J., an older boy struggling with an incurable disease.



New friends and a mystery help Aven, thirteen, adjust to middle school and life at a dying western theme park in a new state, where her being born armless presents many challenges.

Historical Fiction



Twelve-year-old Hazel Rothbury stows away aboard the Titanic and, with the help of a porter named Charlie and a first-class passenger named Sylvia, she sets out to explore the great ship, uncovering a haunting mystery--until the ship hits an iceberg and she must fight to save herself and her friends.



A young adult historical fiction novel based on the true story of Jack Gruener, a Jewish boy who survived 10 concentration camps during World War II. The novel follows Yanek Gruener (based on Jack Gruener) as he navigates the horrors of Nazi-occupied Poland and the concentration camp system, struggling to survive and maintain hope in the face of unimaginable brutality.

Science Fiction



Sixteen-year-old Thomas wakes up with no memory in the middle of a maze and realizes he must work with the community in which he finds himself if he is to escape.



A strange rain unleashes a worldwide plant invasion, with three teens on a remote island seemingly immune to the plants' toxic effects. These teens, Anaya, Petra, and Seth, each have unique allergies that may hold the key to stopping the invasion. The plants, initially a curiosity, quickly become deadly, swallowing animals and people with their carnivorous pods.

Fantasy



Twelve-year-old Poppy meets a water nymph and exchanges her favorite book for a lion, but her deal has unexpected consequences that Poppy must fight to correct.



Once, in a cottage above the cliffs on the Dark Sea of Darkness, there lived three children and their trusty dog Nugget. Janner Igby, his brother Tink, their crippled sister Leeli are gifted children as all children are, loved well by a noble mother and ex-pirate grandfather. But they will need all their gifts and all that love to survive the evil pursuit of the venomous Fangs of Dang who have crossed the dark sea to rule the land with malice and pursue the Igby's who hold the secret to the lost legend and jewels of good King Wingfeather of the Shining Isle of Anniera.

Here are some
helpful bits of
information! See
you soon!

Example of a Chapter Summary!

Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone (chapter one)

The first chapter introduces the Dursley family and strange events happening around them, like owls flying during the day. It turns out the evil wizard Voldemort has been defeated, and baby Harry Potter is left on the Dursleys' doorstep by Dumbledore and Professor McGonagall, who receive the sleeping baby from Hagrid. Dumbledore, McGonagall, and Hagrid then leave, and the chapter ends with baby Harry still sleeping, unaware he is famous as "the boy who lived" in the wizard world.

Why Read This Summer?

- Reading can help you discover new interests and hobbies through books
- Reading can help improve your vocabulary, writing, and comprehension skills
- Reading can help stimulate your creativity and curiosity
- Reading can help you travel to exciting places through stories
- Reading can help you relax and enjoy a break from screens

Holland Hall Summer Reading Camp

Interested in getting the majority of your summer reading done in just **ONE** week. Consider signing up for "**The Reading Cafe**". This camp is hosted in the mornings from 9-12, during the summer weeks of: 6/2-6/6 and 6/23-6/27. During this time you will be able to read and receive any insight and guidance on any of the annotations that are required for the summer reading assignment.

Having trouble staying motivated? Try these ideas:

- Join the local library's summer reading program
- Swap book recommendations with friends
- Read the first book in a new series you've been wanting to start
- Listen to audiobooks during car rides or outdoor activities
- Explore different genres like fantasy, mystery, historical fiction, etc.